

## Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-04

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: (CU/ARTS): DANCE COMPANIES  
TOURING PRIVATELY:MERCE CUNNINGHAM

1. MERCE CUNNINGHAM DANCE CO WILL BE IN AUSTRALIA MARCH  
9 TO APRIL 1 INCLUDING PERFORMANCES AT ADELAIDE FESTIVAL.  
COMPANY AVAILABLE AFTER APRIL 1 IF ADDITIONAL SPONSORS  
PAY SHARE OF U.S.-AUSTRALIA-U.S. TRAVEL COSTS FOR TWENTY-  
TWO PERSONS AND 5000 POUNDS FREIGHT. FEE IS DOLS 16,000  
WEEKLY IN ADDITION.

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2. CUN;I;GAM'S PERFORMANCES PROVOKE ARTISTIC CONTROVERSY

BOT ERE AND ABROAD. 1972 REPORT FROM USIS WARSAW STATED  
,THEY WERE CONTROVERSIAL HIT AND LEFT REVERUERATING IMPACT  
ON SOP;ISTICATED AUDIENCES...AT WARSAW AUTUMN, UELGRADE  
REPORTED "SOME WERE INFURIATED AND WALKED OUT NOISILY.  
SOME WATCED GLASSY-EYED IN OPELESS CONFUSION BUT OTHERS,  
INCLUDI;G MANY OF UELGRADE'S LEADING CRITICS AND I;TELLEC-  
TUALS, ACCLAIMED THREE CUNNINGHAM PERFORMANCES AS AMONG  
MOST IMPORTANT EXPERIENCES BELGRADE AUDIENCES HAVE BEEN  
EXPOSED TO...." LONDON'S SUNDAY TELEGRAPH REVIEW OF  
OCTOBER 1, 1972 STATED CUNNINGHAM AND COMPANY "ARE AS  
UNCOMPROMISING AS EVER. TE NEO-PLATONIST OF MODERN DANCE,  
CUNNI;GHAM GETS SO WRAPPED UP IN AN IDEA IT ALMOST UECOMES  
AN OUSESSION, AND CLEARLY THE IDEA MATTERS MORE THAN  
WHETHER IT IS TEATRICALY VIABLE....REWARDS, EVEN IF THEY  
COME INFREQUENTLY, ARE CONSIDERABLE.,

3. DEPT'S DANCE PANEL AS PREVIOUSLY ENDORSED COMPANY FOR  
SOPISTICATED FESTIVAL AUDIENCES.

4. COMPANY WISHES KNOW BY AUGUST 28 WHETHER ADDITIONAL  
ASIAN CONCERTS CAN BE ARRANGED. NO CU/ARTS FUNDS  
AVAILABLE. ADVISE. INGERSOLL

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